



News and Events in the 5th Grade
October 31, 2011
www.op97.org

Important Dates

Nov. 4	Think Energy Permission Slip Due
Nov. 8	Think Energy Presentation
Nov. 8	Outdoor Education Health Form due
Nov. 10	Literature Circle Final Assessment
Nov. 11	No School
Dec. 5-6	Outdoor Education

Dear Families,

This year's Outdoor Education experience will be held at the Lorado Taft field campus in Oregon, Illinois. Students will leave on Monday, December 5, spend the night at the field campus and return on Tuesday, December 6. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$65. A permission slip, along with the final fee amount, will be distributed in a few weeks. However, this week, the health form will be sent home with your child. Please carefully complete the double-side form and have your child return it to school by November 8. We will need several men and women to chaperone this field trip. If you would like to spend the night with your child (and 30 of his/her best friends), please let your child's homeroom teacher know. For most students, the Outdoor Ed field trip is the highlight of 5th grade. It is an experience that you don't want to miss!

On November 8, a representative from Nicor's Think Energy program will be here to give the 5th grade students a special presentation on energy and water conservation. Students will be given conservation kits for use at home. In order for your child to receive a kit, we must have a signed permission slip authorizing your child's participation. The permission slips were sent home today. Please make sure that your child returns the signed slip by this Friday.

Specials

Art - The Art Room blog is back! Please check out www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com. Here you can see what your student is learning about in Art, and see our artwork as well.

Music - All 5th Graders will need to complete a Composer's Monthly before the end of the trimester. They are located in each student's music notebook, which is normally kept in the music classroom. However, at any point in the trimester they may take their books home to complete this assignment, as long as they bring the book back before the next music class. To complete the assignment, they need to pick September, October or November's composer of the month, read the article, and then answer the questions at the article on the notebook paper in the back of the music notebook. For extra credit they may do the activity pages but it is not required. If you have any questions please email Mrs. Karia at akaria@op97.org.

Spanish - Students will be acting out and recording their current story *El Muchacho Pastor* this week. They can still read the story to someone for extra puntos. You can find it at: www.mpoleski.blogspot.com

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature

This week we continue literature circles for The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis. Students have been assigned roles to complete by the designated due dates (listed on their Literature Circle packet calendar), so that they can participate meaningfully in discussions with their group. These assigned roles can be found in their Literature Circle Packets. Important due dates are as follows:

Discussion 3/Quiz 3 - Chapters 9-12 - Wed, Nov 2nd
 Discussion 4/Quiz 4 - Chapters 13-15 - Mon, Nov 7th
 Group Project Due & Presentation - November 9th
 Final Literature Circle Assessment - Thurs, Nov. 10th

Language Arts/Writing

Writing Assignment: Students submitted their rough drafts to me last week for feedback. They will begin typing their final drafts in class on Thursday and Friday. The persuasive essay will be due on Thursday, November 10th.

Grammar Focus: Singular and Plural Nouns - understand the rules for making most plural nouns and rules for their special forms (change y to i, etc).

Math

This week, we will begin Unit 5, which covers fractions, decimals and percents. We will work primarily on finding equivalent fractions and converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Graded Unit 4 tests will be returned to students by the end of the week. Please review the test with your child, sign it, and have your child return the test to school.

Science

Graded Pollution Unit tests will be returned to your child by Thursday. Please review the test with your child, sign it and have your child return the test to school. Students who received a '2' or lower on the test may correct the test and turn it in for regrading. Students may come in during study hall for assistance with correcting the test. All corrected tests must be turned in for regrading by **November 10**.

This week we will begin studying energy. We will first define energy and study sources of renewable and nonrenewable energy. Next week we will learn about alternative energy sources.

Social Studies

Students had two days last week in class to begin researching their subjects. We will spend several days this week investigating early American settlements and will spend additional time on the research projects next Tuesday and Thursday in class.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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